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General

Proposed Government action against Independence Leagues, etc.

* 2022 Q.—Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that some correspondence has taken place between the Government of India and the Madras Government regarding the steps to be taken, by the Government, or the local officials responsible for peace and order, to suppress or discourage Independence of India Leagues, Youth Leagues, Peasants' and Workers' Associations or Congress Committees or burning of foreign cloth or picketting of liquor and toddy shops;

(b) if so, when it took place last and what opinion this Government has given thereon;

(c) whether the Government of India have given any final instructions to this Government or passed any final orders on the subject; and

(d) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place them on the table of this House?

A.—(a) to (d) The Government do not consider that it would be to the public interest to make any statement on the subject.

Removal of suffixes denoting caste.

* 2023 Q.—Mr. C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether the resolutions passed at the recent Self-respect Conference at Chingleput have been communicated to Government;

(b) whether one of the resolutions was that the names of persons should be altered removing suffixes denoting caste;

(c) whether any representation has been made to the Government to exempt applicants for publication of change of names in the Gazette from payment of fees; and

(d) whether the Government propose to allow the publication of the change of names in the Gazette without payment of any fees?

A.—(a) No.
(b) Does not arise.
(c) & (d) No representation has been received by the Government.

Mr. SAMI VENKATACHALAM CHETTI:—"May I know when the hon. the Third Minister proposes to cut off the suffix to his name? I am asking this question because in answer to another question it is stated that this hon. Minister attended the Self-Respect Conference as a sympathiser." (Laughter.)

The hon. the PRESIDENT:—"The resolutions passed at a conference will not be binding on sympathisers." (Laughter.)

Police

Arrest of Mr. Manoranjan Gupta.

* 2024 Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the Inspector and Sub-Inspector of Police and 25 constables at Bezwada arrested Mr. Manoranjan Gupta, a member of

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the All-India Congress Committee and an ex-detenu under the Bengal Regulation of 1818 and took him and his articles away to the police station at one o'clock in the night without any warrant under section 151, Criminal Procedure Code;

(b) whether it is a fact that Mr. Gupta had come to Bezwada a few days back only to organize agencies for the Bengal Life Insurance Company but had done no political work of any kind either at Bezwada or in any part of the Madras Presidency;

(c) whether it is a fact that Mr. Gupta was lying down in a friend's house on the night of the arrest suffering from 102 degrees fever and severe cough;

(d) whether it is a fact that Mr. Basu in whose residence Mr. Gupta was arrested offered to give bail for Mr. Gupta's attendance at any court on any day for any trial but that the police refused to take the bail and carried Mr. Gupta in a very bad condition of health to the police station and locked him up;

(e) whether the police acted like that under any orders or instructions from any magistrate and, if so, who that magistrate is;

(f) whether the Subdivisional Magistrate, Bezwada, before whom Mr. Gupta was produced by the police at 8 a.m. the next day remanded him to custody for ten days without knowing what the offence was for which he was charged;

(g) whether the articles and papers of Mr. Gupta were carried away to the police station without giving any receipt, though demanded by Mr. Basu;

(h) (1) whether the police acted under the instructions of the Government of Madras or Government of Bengal, and (2) if so, whether the Government will place the instructions on the table of this House;

(i) whether it is a fact that the same Police Inspector had arrested Mr. Bulusu Sambamurti also without any warrant under section 151, Criminal Procedure Code, at the railway station at Bezwada at about 4 a.m.; and

(j) what are the circumstances under which Mr. Gupta has been arrested?

A.—(a) Manoranjan Gupta was arrested at Bezwada by the local Sub-Inspector of Police under section 151, Criminal Procedure Code, at about 1 a.m. on 12th March 1929. The Government have no information as to the strength of the police party that arrested him or whether they took away his articles to the police station.

(b) Organization of agencies for the Bengal Insurance Company was given as the ostensible reason for his visit but he was doing political work in this Presidency.

(c) He complained of fever at the time of arrest, but in view of the fact that at 8 a.m., he took a cold water bath and had no fever subsequently he must be presumed to have been free from fever.

(d), (e), (f), (g) & (j) The case against Manoranjan Gupta is before a court of law. The Government cannot answer these questions.

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(*h*) (1) No.

(*i*) Manoranjan Gupta was arrested by the Sub-Inspector of Police, Bezwada.

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" With reference to answer (*b*), may I know how long previous to his arrest he was in Bezwada, Sir? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I have no information, Sir."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" May I know from the hon. the Law Member the source from which they got the information furnished in answer to clause (*b*) ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " That was the information given to the Government by the Police."

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know what the political work referred to in (*b*) is ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I suppose the hon. Member knows it. "

Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" May I know whether the Police gave the hon. the Home Member any idea of the nature of the political work which this gentleman believed to be was doing ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " There was no necessity for getting any such information."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" May I know the crime which was intended to be perpetrated by Mr. Gupta that was sought to be prevented by arresting him ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I am unable to say anything further as the case is sub-judice."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" In answer to clause (*c*) it is said that he complained of fever at the time of arrest, but in view of the fact that at 8 a.m. he took a cold water bath, etc. Was it after arrest or before arrest ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I suppose after arrest."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" I should like to know whether he had fever at the time of arrest ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :— " I have no information."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU :—" May I ask the hon. the Home Member to say how long Mr. Gupta was kept under remand before being produced before a magistrate ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I have no information, Sir, but I shall call for it if my hon. Friend wants it."

Mr. P. ANJANEYULU :—" In view of the fact that there were hardly 10 hours before he was arrested and seeing that false information is practically supplied by the Police, will the hon. the Home Member take pains to get the correct information ? "

The hon. Khan Bahadur Sir MUHAMMAD USMAN SAHIB Bahadur :—" I shall consider the suggestion of my hon. Friend, Sir."